PHARMACISTS' BULLETIN

NOVA SCOTIA SENIORS' PHARMACARE PROGRAM
PHARMACARE
NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

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FEBRUARY BULLETIN

Nova Scotia Formulary - January 2005

Enclosed is a complete copy of the 2005 Nova Scotia Formulary. Please remove all pages from your Nova Scotia Formulary Binder including the Appendices and replace with the new packet. Please retain the original section dividers with tabs as these have not been changed. The new version is paginated to correspond with the original ATC classification and the pages should be inserted within the existing tabs: A- Alimentary Track & Metabolism, B- Blood and Blood-Forming Organs and so on.

Within the drug listings, the information provided with each product has been redesigned, whereby the columns displaying the "Therapeutic Ultilization Recommendation" indicators (green, amber, red) and the "Relative Cost" indicators ($, $$, $$$) have been removed and replaced with a column for "Prescriber Codes". These codes indicate which health care provider is authorized to prescribe a specfiic drug product for payment under the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Programs (see Nova Scotia Formulary Introduction).

Also, the Appendices within the NS Formulary have been reduced:
Appendix I - Abbreviations
Appendix II - Pharmaceutical Manufacturer Names
Appendix III - Criteria for Coverage of Exception Status Drugs

For complete information regarding the Nova Scotia Pharmacare Programs, as well as the Nova Scotia Formulary in pdf format and searchable format, please refer to the following website address:
www.gov.ns.ca/health/pharmacare

INCLUDED WITH THIS BULLETIN:

- **Nova Scotia Formulary - January 2005**
- **New Ostomy Supplies Benefit List**
- **Replacement page for February 2005 MAC List**

Ostomy Supplies Benefit List

A review of the Ostomy Supplies Benefit List has been completed and the current benefit list is attached for your reference. (This list also appears in the Miscellaneous section of the Nova Scotia Formulary.) The Product Identification Numbers (PINs) reflect those developed by the Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia's OPINIONS project. The old PINs will be discontinued, effective April 1, 2005, in favour of the new numbering system. Please note that each size of a product has been assigned its own unique number and should be used when claiming.

The attached list is sorted into four categories:
1. Skin Barrier and Adhesive Products
2. Skin Barrier or Wafer with Flange (2-piece)
3. Pouches, Open or Closed (2-piece)
4. One-Piece Systems

The ostomy supplies benefit list encompasses both one-piece and two-piece pouch systems as well as the skin barrier and adhesive products.

Many of the accessories have been delisted as benefits, effective April 1, 2005, to allow for increased coverage of the above mentioned products. Those patients who are currently using any of the delisted accessories will be grandfathered and can continue to access these products as required.

Change to Maximum Allowable Cost List

The Maximum Allowable Cost (MAC) on the following categories will be **effective February 15, 2005** to reflect changes in the acquisition cost of the lowest priced brands. Enclosed are replacement pages for your February, 2005 MAC List which reflects these changes.

GENTAMICIN 0.3% Otic Sol	*N/A*
LEFLUNOMIDE 10mg Tab	*6.3438*
LEFLUNOMIDE 20mg Tab	*6.3438*
METHOTREXATE 2.4mg Tab	*N/A*